13.4 SECRET SECURITY INFORMATION

1260 K-GEN'L MAY 28 300

Chief, ER Chief, PHB

INFO: COM, Frankfurt

OPERATIONAL/CALL

Termination of KIBITZ-15 Group

REF- - MOFA-1220, 18 May 1953 BOFA-1094, 16 April 1953

- 1. The team members of the KIBITZ-15 net were debriefed and disposed of by] and [] during the period 15 April to 12 May 1953. Individual termination reports and signed quit claims are being posched separately.
- 2. The termination went off very smoothly and without any binds, due in large measure to the attitude and cooperation of KIBITZ-15 and KIBITZ-150. As soon as it was made clear that we had to fold up the net, they set out to help us wind it up in the quickest manner possible by first contacting each agent, informing them that the Americans were withdrawing their support due to political reasons and therefore required a secrecy agreement to be signed by them, along with a few questions for the protection of their secrets. KIBITZ-15 and KIBITZ-150 made arrangements for our meetings with the individual agents and we debriefed them according to the above referenced plan. They showed no bitterness, but only disappointment that their fight against Communism would be stymied by this action.
- 3. The reactions of the individual members was very much the same. Each one accepted our explanation that we were withdrawing and that the work would cease, but practically all expressed disappointment that it would no longer continue. Some were hegitant to sign their full name to the quit claim and receipt, but this was for reasons of personal security and not that they disagreed to the statements in the quit claim. It should be explained that Germans, after the exploitation of the wartime records by the Allies and after the Fragebogen, show a well-founded reluctance to affix their name to anything that might get them into trouble. They were otherwise very cooperative during their interviews.
- h. KIBITZ-150 was terminated on 12 May 1953 and with the approval of the DCCML was given DM 1,000.00 and the Volkswagen vehicle which we had assigned to him. His future plans are at present uncertain, as it will take some time to find a suitable position. However, KIBITZ-15 has informed us that he was trying to work in a muitable position for KIBITZ-150 in his firm.

26 May 1953

3 - BE "DIRECT" L - com (cd)

DIST:

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)

(2)(A) Privacy

(2)(B) Methods/Sources

(2)(G) Foreign Relations

DOCUMENT NO.

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5. During the conduct of this termination we found no evidences that this operation was mything other than what its organisers claimed it to be. We again found the people to be straightforward, sincere, and cooperative people, well-motivated and willing to work. They expressed their willingness to work with us in the future should it be decided to resume the operation. We parted on very cordial terms with no hard feelings. We hope that we have not gotten rid of a good iron in the fire.

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APPROVED:

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